

**Talent takes a stroll***Student designers, Soldiers model own retail fashions*

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# Fort Riley Post

**16th Infantry wins title***Company level basketball play ends season*

Page 11



Friday, March 18, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 48, No. 11

**Around The Army****Iraq:**

The European Stars and Stripes reported March 16 that Army Capt. Tristan Vasquez of the 127th Military Police Company isn't fazed by the debate over what roles women should play in combat.

The 25-year-old officer from Cody, Wyo., already has a Bronze Star Medal on her résumé for valor under fire during an ambush in northwest Baghdad last August. Just days later, she helped repel an insurgent attack on the Al-Shoula Iraqi Police Station, which brought an additional commendation.

"We joke around all the time and say there are no women in combat," she said. "That's all right, though. We know what we do."

For more on this story and other U.S. military news in the European and Pacific theaters, visit [www.estripes.com](http://www.estripes.com) on the Web.

**Fort Rucker:**

The Army Flier reported March 16 that the Aviation Task Force Implementation Conference began March 14 on post and would run through March 18 at the Senell Warfighting Simulator Center to support Army aviation's role in all aspects of future force development.

The Aviation Task Force Implementation Conference is held in order to provide a venue for Army aviation that uses the expertise of its attendees and presenters to identify what must change to support Army transformation.

For more on this and other Fort Rucker news, visit [www.armyflyer.com/](http://www.armyflyer.com/) on the Web.

**Fort Dix:**

The Post reported March 11 that something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue was a good way to describe the improved Newcomers Orientation that Army Community Services would debut March 17.

The five-hour experience was scheduled to start at 9 a.m. at the ACS office, and by the time the event finished at 2 p.m., attendees would have a greater knowledge of what is available at Fort Dix and the neighboring installations of McGuire Air Force Base and Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Center.

For more on this story and other Fort Dix news, visit [www.dix.army.mil/PAO/post05/post031105](http://www.dix.army.mil/PAO/post05/post031105) on the Web.

**Fort Knox:**

The Turret reported March 11 that an on-post program at Ireland Army Community Hospital was available to help families in the early upbringing of developmentally challenged children.

Parents who believe there might be a deficiency in their child's development can make an appointment to have a lengthy and involved evaluation performed on the child.

Children must be between newborn and 3 years old and show a developmental delay in one of five core areas: communication skills, motor skills, self-help, personal and social skills, or learning skills.

For more on this story and other Fort Knox news, visit [www.thewesternenterprise.com/](http://www.thewesternenterprise.com/) on the Web.

## Estonians protect post tankers

*Coalition infantry works with 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, during village patrols*

By David Foley

Army News Service

CAMP VICTORY, Iraq - One small European country is playing

a major role in keeping supply convoys safe while moving through Iraq.

Each day, hundreds of trucks travel the streets of Iraq carrying cargo bound for military installa-

tions and forward operating posts.

One of the ways the Army is minimizing the risk involved in delivering supplies to Soldiers in Iraq is through a joint operation that includes Soldiers 2nd Battal-

ion, 70th Armor, temporarily

assigned to the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y., and a platoon of Estonian infantrymen.

The two units work together keeping each other safe while

patrolling Gazalia Village, a 15-kilometer section of road in the heart of western Baghdad known to be a hot spot for improvised

See Patrols, Page 4

## No Hawkeye?



Post/Heronemus

Spc. Selso Delgado (left), Capt. Richard Bett, a physician's assistant and Spc. Joshua Witt practice appropriate treatment for a Soldier suffering a wound-caused amputation during a mass casualty exercise at the Multipurpose Range Complex March 9.

## Medics train for mass casualty rush

By Mike Heronemus

Editor

A hull in activity hung over the training site March 9, a boring difference from the night before when Company C, 101st For-

ward Support Battalion, Soldiers responded quickly to news four war casualties were inbound.

Now, Spc. Tiffany Putz told her friends she'd just gotten the complete seventh season of the old "M\*A\*S\*H" television

series on DVD and conversation turned quickly to recollections of each Soldier's favorite show.

"I liked the one where Hawkeye refused

See photos Page 2, Exercise Page 3

## Attack kills 47th Ft. Riley Soldier

Staff report

Spc. Matthew A. Koch, 23, of West Henrietta, N.Y., was killed in an improvised explosive attack March 9 in Taji, Iraq.

Koch was an engineer with Company C, 70th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

He enlisted in the Army in January 2002.

Koch had been stationed at Fort Riley since June 2002 and deployed for a second rotation to support

Operation Iraqi Freedom in January 2005.

About 4,300 Fort Riley Soldiers are deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. This incident brings the number of Fort Riley Soldiers who have died while serving in support Operation Iraqi Freedom to 47.

Memorial services were March 17.



Spc. Matthew Koch

## Battalion installs add-on armor

By Phil LaCasse

2nd Bn., 34th Armor, SI

Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, took their personal safety into their own hands after arriving for duty in Kuwait. They installed pre-fabricated armor kits to add protection to their wheeled vehicles.

The more heavily armored wheeled vehicles offer the Soldiers more survivability and are better equipped to handle the threat they face on Iraqi roads.

"I continually tell our Soldiers to maintain their equipment like their life depends on it," said Lt. Col. Oscar Hall IV, battalion commander. "This is another example of that."

When 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, deployed to Kuwait in late January, it did so with a fleet of armored vehicles that included tanks, armored personnel carriers and 120mm mortar carriers.

Supporting the "Dreadnaught" battalion's heavy equipment requires a host of wheeled vehicles that includes five-ton trucks, fuel trucks, cargo trucks and

See More armor, Page 6

## Tankers, engineers uncover explosives

By Matthew Wester

100th MPAD

CAMP TAJI, Iraq - A group of Soldiers moves slowly along the side of a Baghdad road. Their eyes scan the sandy ground and dense undergrowth.

"We got wires!" a voice yells out. The other Soldiers quickly move to their armored vehicles.

The Soldiers had just found the biggest killer of Americans in Iraq - an improvised explosive device.

These members of 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, and 70th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, conducted the IED sweep March 7 along a stretch of highway known for being riddled with explosives.

"We protect this road because insurgents put out IEDs and try to

get the convoys coming through," said Capt. Greg Spencer, commander of Company A, 1st Bn., 13th Armor.

Spencer reported that four explosive devices had been found on the road in the previous seven days.

At the beginning of the sweep, the Soldiers left their M-113 armored personnel carriers and immediately searched the wreckage of a car bomb previously detonated by insurgents.

Gunsners manned their turret-mounted M-240B machine guns, watching for any sign of trouble.

The dismounted Soldiers fanned out, looking closely at trash littering the shoulder of the road and the palm grove to their left.

See Sweep, Page 6



Capt. Greg Spencer (right), commander of Co. A, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, and Spc. Vladimir Joseph search through the wreckage of a previously exploded car bomb in northern Baghdad. Later, Soldiers in their company would find an IED hidden inside a palm log. 100th MPAD/Wester





# MASCAL



*Post/Heronemus*  
Spc. Tiffany Putz (center) and Pvt. Justin Graber apply a splint to a Soldier with a make-believe broken arm. Wounded Soldiers helped Co. C with its MASCAL exercise.



*Post/Heronemus*  
Spc. Kaisha Nesmith (left), Dr. (Maj.) Noel Jarrell (second from left), Sgt. Tiffany Gorham (second from right) and Staff Sgt. Walter Laird try to strap down a struggling patient so they can tend to his wounds. Nesmith is an X-ray technician, but spent much of her time helping with other tasks in the treatment room while Co. C, 101st FSB, ran through a mass casualty simulation that treated 15 wounded Soldiers within 90 minutes.



*Post/Heronemus*  
Sgt. Andrew Frank (right) gathers personal information from a wounded Soldier. The information will be provided to medevac personnel.



A litter detail prepares to carry a wounded Soldier to a Black Hawk medevac chopper from the 1256th Air Medical Company as part of Co. C, 101st FSB's, mass casualty exercise. The chopper took three patients on this flight and had to return for other wounded Soldiers needing evacuation to better treatment facilities.  
*Post/Heronemus*



*Post/Heronemus*  
First Lt. Osceola Evans, treatment platoon leader, takes a call advising of incoming war casualties.

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# Exercise continued from page 1

to take a bath until Winchester would stop playing his French horn," one recalled.

The talk moved naturally from television war experiences to their real experiences with war and litter after litter of wounded, maimed and dead Soldiers and Marines. The war stories spilled from the mouths of Soldiers seemingly too young to have experienced the kind of human sacrifice and misery often heard retold by Korean and Vietnam War veterans sitting at the bar in the local VFW or American Legion Post.

These 20-some-year-old veterans shared the horrors they had witnessed in flat, matter-of-fact voices tinged occasionally with a tone of anger and frequently in retrospective whispers.

These veterans of the Global War on Terrorism and at least one tour of duty in Iraq held the rapt attention of younger Soldiers in the company who expected to experience the same types of situations when they deploy.

Everyone knew they would deploy sometime. Few Soldiers expected to escape their nation's call to stand in the sand of that

battle-scarred and dangerous country.

The chitchat ended abruptly with word that wounded were being brought to the company's medical facility, if you can call a canvas triage shelter and a room in a cement-block building a facility.

Eyes searched the roads leading to the site, each Soldier trying to get the first glimpse of the inbound ambulance. "I can see the lights coming over that hill," one Soldier declared. Tension mounted. It was time to practice what they would have to do in a real mass casualty situation in Iraq - or anywhere.

Putz and Pvt. Justin Graber made another check of their supplies at the triage shelter, noting they didn't have everything they would probably need and would have to find ways to improvise.

A small mass of Soldiers gathered behind the ambulance to help carry litter-borne wounded to the triage shelter or immediately into the treatment room if necessary.

They carried one Soldier with part of his left arm missing inside immediately where Capt. Richard Bett, Spc. Selso Delgado and Spc.

Joshua Witt began simulated treatment to treat the amputation and stabilize the Soldier for medevac to a better treatment facility.

A radio crackled with news of more work for the medics of Co. C: "Casualties coming in. Ten to 15 'mikes.' Injuries one head wound, one abdominal wound, one sucking chest wound."

The second load of casualties arrived and more casualties were expected. Wounded Soldiers filled the three tables inside the treatment room. Three more Soldiers lay on litters in the triage shelter waiting to be seen. One of those Soldiers, a woman, suffered with serious burns on her upper body and both arms. A male Soldier lying beside her had shrapnel in both legs. Both would have to wait while more critically injured Soldiers were treated first.

Inside the treatment room, three separate conversations took place as the medical specialists at each table talked themselves

through the treatment being administered and offered continual encouragement to the wounded Soldiers.

One Soldier lying on a litter turned violent, twisting his body, jerking his head and even trying to bite Sgt. Tiffany Gorham, who was trying to treat him. Several medics rush from other parts of the room to help subdue the patient so the ones treating him could strap him down. Gorham dodged another effort to bite her and wrapped a long strip of gauze around his chin and under the litter, tying it so he can't jerk his head or try to bite anymore.

With the patient immobilized, Spc. Kaisha Nesmith rolled her x-ray machine into position and took an x-ray. Gorham, Dr. (Maj.) Noel Jarrell and Staff Sgt. Walter Laird continued treatment.

Co. C handled 15 casualties in

about 90 minutes that day, even calling in a Black Hawk helicopter of the 1256th Air Medical Company to evacuate several patients. It was just a training exercise, but a vital exercise, said Capt. Cory Plowden, company commander.

He served with the unit when it last deployed to Iraq and said his Soldiers weren't adequately prepared to handle a mass casualty situation then. He didn't want to see his Soldiers return to Iraq without more adequate training to meet such a challenge.

The exercise also was important because the company has lost about half its experienced members because of reassignments. With half the company's medics new to the Army and to what they would face in Iraq, Plowden said he wanted to be sure they were prepared for what might lie ahead.

Sgt. Colt Crutchfield said his job was to "run the treatment room." He hoped for similar training in the future. "We need to set up this treatment room and run casualties through it over and over."

He welcomed the chance to train for a mass casualty situation. "I think this is a good first stage. If we can do it over and over and over again, we can be as close to realistic as possible and be ready for Iraq."

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## Post news in brief

### Green Beret briefings set

A Special Forces recruiter will be at Fort Riley March 21-24 to brief Soldiers interested in duty as a Green Beret.

Briefings will be at 10 a.m. and noon each day in the post retention office.

For more information, call the recruiter, Sgt. 1st Class Kris Ball, at (877) 840-8502.

### Post to begin spring cooling

Weather permitting, Public Works personnel will begin turning off heating beginning April 4 in the following sequence:

**April 4-15** -- Administrative buildings, barracks, bachelor officer quarters with individual units, buildings in the 8000 area, dining facilities and community buildings.

Air conditioning systems are scheduled to be turned on beginning May 2 May in the following order:

**May 2-13** -- Barracks, bachelor officer quarters and bachelor enlisted quarters, buildings in

the 8000 area, community buildings and administrative buildings.

Heating and cooling systems in chapels, medical and dental buildings will be maintained as appropriate.

Family housing occupants control their own heat and air conditioning systems as desired. The authorized temperature for the cooling season is 76 to 80 degrees.

### Toastmasters slate meeting

The next Old Bill's Toastmasters meeting will be 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. March 24 at Junction City Fire Station No. 2.

Anyone from the Fort Riley and Junction City community interested in building their leadership skills and overcoming the fear of public speaking is invited to attend. The meeting is free and open to the general public.

Old Bill's Toastmasters is a non-profit organization affiliated with Toastmasters International that promotes a positive learning environment.

For more information and directions to the meeting location, call Jim Hill at 761-1130.

## Patrols continued from page 1

explosive devices.

The American tank company, part of Task Force 1-41, attached to the 2nd Brigade, 10th Mtn. Div., doesn't have light infantry Soldiers, so it relies on the Estonians to provide security for tanks. In turn, the armor Soldiers provide security for the Estonians.

"It's not too easy to cordon and search with a bunch of tanks," said Capt. Jade Hinman, commander of Co. C, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor. "To have a group of Estonians who are good at what they do is like having a plate of brownies to myself."

"It is an honor and a privilege to work with coalition Soldiers," he said. "It is great to have another country who works so well with us."

Hinman said he is sometimes the butt of jokes because many American Soldiers have never heard of Estonia and say it is a mythical country, but the Estonian soldiers are some of the best he's seen.

"I'd stack them up with any infantry platoon I've ever seen," he said. "I'm not getting a second-rate team; I'm getting first-rate soldiers."

Sgt. Michael Fragassi of Co. C works directly with the Estonian soldiers on the ground and said he was impressed to see their capabilities.

"I expected them to show up with outdated Russian surplus



ANS/Foley

**Estonian Staff Sgt. Sigmar Zelinski stands guard over an empty lot across from a fruit stand in Western Baghdad while his teammates pass by. The platoon of Estonian Soldiers is working with U.S. Soldiers to secure a 15-kilometer section of road in Western Baghdad.**

equipment, but they are very well equipped," he said. "They have the same night vision as us, they carry Israeli manufactured Galils, which are basically the best parts of an AK-47 and an M16 put together, and they are very well trained."

"They are awesome," he said. "Outstanding soldiers. I'd put them on par with our rangers as far as their training and weapons

are concerned."

Estonian Army Capt. Neeme Brus, a media relations officer with Multi-National Corps - Iraq, said Estonia knows the value of freedom and the need to fight terrorism (in Iraq), before the fight ends up in their own back yard.

Thirty-five Estonian soldiers serve in Iraq now. About 140 Estonian soldiers have served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Brus

said that may seem like a small number, but in a country smaller than New Hampshire and Vermont combined, with a population of fewer than 1.5 million people, they have made a major contribution.

Estonia's participation in OIF has not come without sacrifice. Two Estonian soldiers have died, and 10 others have been wounded in action.

Brus said the Estonians are aware of the cost of freedom after being under the communist rule and the Soviet Union's control for 50 years. They believe in the cause. Estonia gained its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

While many of the countries that are part of the coalition offer support strictly through logistics or engineering, Estonian soldiers are on the ground patrolling neighborhoods and searching for weapons and anti-Iraqi forces' hideouts.

"We are a small but effective part of the (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)," Brus said.

The Estonian parliament votes this month on its continuing involvement in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The public opinion in Estonia about our participation here is almost 50-50," Brus said. "But the Estonian soldiers hope the parliament will extend the Estonian mission in OIF."

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# Commentary

Friday, March 18, 2005

Fort Riley Post

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## Riley Roundtable

### This week's question:

What do you think is the biggest safety concern at Fort Riley?



"Drunk driving. I just had two friends killed. It's up to the individual Soldier not to drive drunk. They've got to take responsibility for their own actions."

**Spc. Shandricka Calloway**  
Supply Specialist  
1st Replacement Company  
Home: Valdosta, Ga.



"Motorcycles. With the temperatures warming up, lots of Soldiers are thinking about buying one without out knowing how to ride. They need to educate themselves on safety measures and on post policies."

**2nd Lt. Jarrad Glasenapp**  
3rd Platoon leader, Company C,  
1st Battalion, 34th Armor  
Home: Milwaukee, Wis.



"The traffic circles on the hill, the roundabouts. Usually, Americans don't deal with them and many Soldiers are not familiar with using them."

**Julian Tobin**  
Civilian employee  
G3 range safety  
Home: Junction City



"Drinking and driving. I lost a couple of friends before I came into the Army. It's a problem with people getting together for barbecues because of warmer weather. You should always go with a buddy that's a designated driver and plan ahead."

**Pfc. Katherine Vazquez**  
Human resources specialist  
15th Personnel Services Battalion  
Home: Houston, Texas



"Drinking and driving, especially with spring break coming up and when people are boating. People always need to go with a designated driver."

**Spc. David Yarnell**  
Battalion finance specialist  
1st Battalion, 16th Infantry  
Home: Durand, Wis.

### Next week's question:

What do you think is the best thing about being in the Army or being an Army family?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at [mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil](mailto:mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil) or faxed to the editor at 239-2592. Opinions must reach the editor by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.

### Command viewpoint

## Myers: Aim for jointness, keep pride

*Editor's note: General Richard Myers' comments are taken from an appearance he made March 13 at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, and an American Forces Press Service news release about that visit.*

Jointness is the way ahead, but that doesn't mean the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps are going to merge into some national joint force, but I didn't think the individual services should go away.

I think the individual service cultures are extremely important because, first of all, pride. The pride personnel show in their service is an important part of why they serve. It is also an important part of why we do extraordinary things when asked to do it.

Whatever uniform you wear or



**Gen. Richard Myers**

what patch you wear on your sleeve has a lot to do with our esprit de corps and our willingness to sacrifice for our friends, our comrades and our nation.

A second reason why the individual services are important is because they breed healthy competition. Competition is a good thing. The American system is based on it - in economics, the political world. Competition breeds excellence.

I think there is room for more jointness in the military. That

does not mean we should not be a well-integrated fighting machine. I think we are. We've come a long way since Congress had to legislate that we'd be joint back in 1986.

The military was pretty pathetic in its ability to work together before the Goldwater-Nichols Act that President Reagan signed that year. Even in Operation Desert Storm, jointness meant deconflicting the battlefield and was not really an integrated effort.

But, the military has changed, and anyone studying major combat operations in Iraq or Operation Enduring Freedom will see that service integration is a way of life.

What is important now is integration beyond the Defense

Department. It is especially crucial for the DoD officials to work closely with their counterparts in the State Department.

One thing that can help is the education process. By the time a military officer reaches 20 years of service, roughly 10 percent of that officer's time in service is spent in an educational institution of some sort. I don't know if that is mirrored in other departments of the government.

The DoD schools reserve slots for people from other government agencies. All involved see the benefits of that sort of comingling. I have appealed to Cabinet members and agency leaders for some sort of cross training. It's usually well-received. Leaders understand that this is important.

### Why I Serve

## Sergeant spends 14 years with same unit

*Editor's note: In the "here today, deployed tomorrow" world of Fort Drum, N.Y., home of the Army's 10th Mountain Division, there are a few unchanging facts of life: the winters are unbearably cold, deployment tempo is high, and "Sergeant Shu" is with 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment.*

**By Matthew McLaughlin**  
Special to AFPS

Since enlisting in April 1991, Sgt. 1st Class David J. Schumacher, a platoon sergeant with Company B, has been with the "Golden Dragons," one of the most deployed battalions in one of the most deployed divisions. In fact, the last time 2nd Bn., 14th Inf., deployed without Schumacher was to Vietnam in 1967.

Schumacher, an Easton, Pa., native, arrived at Fort Drum in April 1991 as part of a COHORT unit, meaning a majority of his company from basic training was stationed together at Fort Drum. The years passed, and Soldiers came and went, but Schumacher remained. This is his story: "A lot of them (his COHORT buddies) got out around the same time. I made a lot of great friends. I kind of had to make whole new friends."

The 10th Mountain Division's history of deployments initially prevented Schumacher from moving to a new duty station. His first deployment was a humanitarian mission to aid Floridians after Hurricane Andrew in 1991. He deployed again in 1992 to Haiti and then in 1993 to Somalia, where 2nd Bn., 14th Inf., Soldiers aided Rangers under assault in the battle made



**David J. Schumacher**

"If we're not the most deployed unit in the Army, we're close. The water doesn't get stale around here. Being deployed to so many theaters, ... I have so much experience now. I saw all of it."

His knowledge of combat situations isn't the only wisdom he shares with his Soldiers. Living at Fort Drum for so long has made him a sort of North Country sage. "I can tell them which hunting and fishing spots to go to, which bars to go to and stay away from, where not to buy a car."

As a platoon sergeant in Iraq, Schumacher's experience continues to benefit him. Soldiers often ask him how his present deployment measures up to previous deployments. "Sometimes a Soldier will say 'Hey, Sergeant Shu, does that

remind you of Somalia?' I said, 'Yeah that (rocket-propelled grenade) was kind of heartwarming.'"

Of all his deployments, Schumacher said his current assignment has been the hardest. He and Co. B spent most of the summer quelling insurgency in Sadr City, formerly a highly volatile area in Baghdad. Co. B lost five Soldiers, more than any company in the 2nd Brigade Combat Team. Despite the hardships, Schumacher re-enlisted indefinitely in November. He pointed out that several Soldiers from his company re-enlisted during this deployment.

"As tough as we've had it, ... we had five, maybe six, re-enlistments. That says something for what we're doing over here."

Schumacher deployed more times as a part of his unit than any other battalion Infantry Soldier. He has spent more time in Iraq in the past two years than with his family and loved ones. Why does he do it?

"I can't see myself doing anything else. The things I get to do as a platoon sergeant you can't find in any other job. Who else besides a Soldier would understand it?"

*Army Spc. Matthew McLaughlin is assigned to the 10th Mountain Division.*

### Grunt By Wayne Uhden



Do you know a Soldier who has a good story about choosing the Army as his or her career? Call the editor at 239-8854. Let's talk.

### FORT RILEY POST

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Your name (optional) and phone number (if you would like to talk about your ideas): \_\_\_\_\_





## Post news in brief

### Two-wheeler courses set

A Dirt Bike RiderCourse is scheduled for 10 a.m. March 19 at the McGee Farm in Wakefield. An ATV RiderCourse is scheduled for 10 a.m. March 27 and 28 at the McGee Farm.

The hands-on, half-day ATV RiderCourse and Dirt Bike RiderCourse are conducted by licensed ASI instructors. Students practice basic safety techniques with hands-on exercises. The course also covers protective gear, environmental concerns and local laws.

Individuals 6 years of age and older may take the class. Riders younger than 16 are restricted to dirt bikes and ATVs of the size recommended for the rider's age.

There are special teaching provisions for students under 16 years old, and parents are encouraged to attend. Students younger than 12 participate in separate classes and a parent must be present.

Class size is determined by the age of the students: maximum of eight for 16 and older, maximum of six for 12 to 15 and maximum of four for 6 to 12 years old. Parents or guardian must attend with students ages 6 to 11.

Students under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the release and consent form.

For more information, call Vanita Fiedler at 239-2334.



Spec. Jonathan J. Banket (left) and Spec. Alfonso Guzman put together the turret assembly that is part of the add-on armor being installed to improve protection in wheeled vehicles of 2nd Bn., 34th Armor.

## More armor

continued from page 1

"Humvees." Each vehicle is significantly less armored and, consequently, more vulnerable.

To mitigate the risk to wheeled vehicles posed by improvised explosive devices, the battalion's Soldiers used the Army supply system to better protect that fleet of wheeled support vehicles, said Capt. Paul Deegan, battalion motor officer.

"The battalion is fortunate to have three experienced welders when most armor battalions only have one," Deegan said.

Those three welders worked around the clock in Kuwait and Iraq, welding steel to reinforce the battalion's fleet of wheeled vehicles. The battalion also sent many of their "Humvees" to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, to be uparmored with kits that included reinforced

doors, windshields and windows, Deegan said.

In Iraq, the Soldiers of 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, continue to improve the protection of their vehicles.

The battalion orders armor kits through the Army supply system. Last week the battalion received the 1,000th armor kit from ArmorWorks, a company that supplies add-on armor kits for wheeled vehicles. To commemorate the 1,000th armor kit, the company's employees all signed their names on the shipping crate, Deegan said.

The battalion's policy mandates that any wheeled vehicle leaving the FOB must have a minimum of reinforced armor on the doors and back as well as reinforced glass in the windshield and windows, Deegan said.

## Sweep

continued from page 1

The Soldiers know this ground very well and pay attention to every detail they can about their surroundings.

"They become very adept at it," Spencer said, describing his team's skills. "They know every crater."

Those skills were put to the test when Sgt. Jonathan Wolford and Sgt. Joshua L. Jenkins, both combat engineers with 2nd Platoon, Company, 70th Eng. Bn., came upon a hollow palm log resting near a small bridge.

The bridge had recently been repaired after being damaged by a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device.

Jenkins stooped down, looked into the log and saw something inside.

"I thought it was just trash," Jenkins said. "Then I put two and two together and figured I found something."

Jenkins called out to Wolford, who was looking in the same log from the other end.

"As soon as he said, 'Sgt. Wolford,' I saw red wires, alligator

clips and a black box," Wolford said.

"I'm not scared of explosives, but I have respect for them," he said. "If you see me running, it's for a reason."

The two NCOs let the rest of the group know of the suspected explosive device.

A safe cordoned area was established using M1A1 tanks, M-113s and Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles.

While that was being done, an explosive ordnance disposal team from the 766th Ordnance Company was called to dispose of the device.

The EOD team used a robot to survey the log.

"We call him Johnny Five," Wolford said, referring to a robot in the movie "Short Circuit."

Once it was established that an IED was inside the log, the robot placed explosives on the log, and an EOD specialist detonated the device in a huge cloud of dust and debris.

The fireworks weren't over yet.

Thirty minutes later, another explosion rocked the cordoned

area.

Someone triggered a second device across the median from the first one as three Soldiers moved toward the exploded log to inspect it.

No Soldiers were harmed by the blast.

After a group of Bradleys secured the site of the second blast, regular traffic along the route continued.

If it weren't for the work of the 1st Bn., 13th Armor, and 70th Eng. Bn. Soldiers, the IEDs could have been used against coalition vehicles or personnel.

These Soldiers made sure that didn't happen.

"We did our job," Wolford said.

Capt. Spencer agreed. "It's a very tangible mission," he said. "Every day they go out and save lives."

### COTTONWOOD THEATERS

1 x 3"  
Black Only  
1x3 Cottonwood, March TF

SCREEN MACHINE  
2 x 2"  
Black Only  
2x2screen F03/04am

SALINA POWERSPORT  
3 x 2.5"  
Black Only  
3X2.5 GENERAL AD/9939

MJS COMMUNICATIONS  
3 x 10.5"  
Black Only  
3X10.5 Quinmer #M7S041157 3/18

FAITH FURNITURE  
3 x 9"  
Black Only  
3x9 Faith/Post





CUSTOM MEDIA SOLUTIONS/USSPI  
6 x 21.25"  
Black Only  
Jeep/Post 3-18-05





## Paper, TV news win state, Army awards

### Staff report

The Fort Riley Post and Public Affairs Office staff won six awards in the Kansas Press Association's 2005 Awards of Excellence contest recognizing work done through calendar year 2004. Awards will be presented at the KPA's conference in mid-April.

The Public Affairs Office staff also won recognition for excellence with entries submitted to the Installation Management Agency's Northwest Region as the preliminary judging for the Army's annual Keith L. Ware Awards Program for journalists and broadcasters.

The KPA contest takes an annual look at member newspapers in the state to determine which ones have done the best job informing their readerships and which reporters and photographers have demonstrated superior talent in their profession.

The Post submitted entries in competition with other weekly newspapers with a circulation of more than 4,000 readers. The Post distributes more than 8,000 copies to family quarters and units on post, to subscribers and at newsstands in Junction City, Ogden and Manhattan.

The Post placed second as a newspaper in the KPA contest categories of Design and Layout and Best Use of Photos.

Command Information Officer Gary Skidmore placed second in the News Photo category and Assistant Media Relations Officer Sam Robinson placed second for her series printed in the Post and telling about U.S. Army Reserve activations and their impact on American business.

Editor Mike Heronemus placed third for headline writing and

Staff Writer April Blackmon received an honorable mention for a sports photo.

In the regional Keith L. Ware competition, the Post placed second behind the Northwest Guardian at Fort Lewis, Wash. The Northwest Guardian was last year's Keith L. Ware winner in the Metro-Newspaper Format.

Blackmon won first place for a sports feature and a single photo. Both entries will compete at Army level.

The Fort Riley Command Briefing Video produced by Scott Rhodes of the Public Affairs Office won first place for Television Information Program and will compete at Army level.

Spec. John Wollaston won second place for a television report on a 7-year-old cancer victim's visit to the post, and Rhodes won a third place in the same category for his report on the Global War on Terrorism Memorial dedication. Rhodes also won second place for a local newscast, "In Step With Fort Riley."



*Post/Baker*  
**Capt. Aaron Snyder (top), a training officer with the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) ties up Staff Sgt. Lance Lovell of 3rd Bde., 75th Div. (TS) and uses a choking technique to get the sergeant to "tap out," signaling his defeat. The fight was part of Barton County Community College instruction in the Modern Army Combative course.**

COLLEGE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH  
2 x 2"  
Black Only  
2X2COLLEGETF03/04AM

KANSAS PRESS  
2 x 2"  
Black Only  
TnUGreen/3-15, 3-16 & 3-18

SALINA MINI STORAGE  
1 x 1"  
Black Only  
Post monthly card ad

SUNFLOWER BANK- SALINA  
3 x 10.5"  
Black Only  
3x10.5 Sunflower bank

## Soldiers learn combatives

*By Jay Baker*  
*Public affairs intern*

As a rule, fighting in class is wrong; but in one class taught by Barton County Community College instructors through Fort Riley Education Services, students should expect to fight.

The Modern Army Combatives Program came to Fort Riley Feb. 28. The course spans 40 hours during five days and is taught at Long Fitness Center. It presents hand-to-hand training and grappling techniques to Soldiers.

The new course is very different from the hand-to-hand training older Soldiers might remember from their Army training.

First, the combatives course is a system that offers a foundation (Level I) course of close-contact fighting. In Levels II and III, Soldiers learn how to strike from a distance with hands, legs and impromptu weapons, such as sticks.

Another difference is that the technique teaches chokes and joint manipulation found in

ancient fighting styles like Muaythai and Jiu-Jitsu in addition to free-style wrestling, said combatives instructor David Durnel.

A small class of 14 Soldiers received the training Feb. 28, but more Soldiers can expect to learn to fight when the community college offers level II training later this spring.

"Soldiers certified in Levels I and II can teach Level I skills to other Soldiers. That will increase the number of Level I certified Soldiers," Durnel said.

Soldiers in the class weighed from 160 pounds to more than 250 pounds. Each one went full speed during their fight with each other and switched to another opponent when the instructor yelled, "Rotate!"

The fighters rotated and opposed a different person every few minutes. Wrestling an evenly sized and weight opponent for five minutes is exhausting, but squaring up with one 50 pounds heavier is daunting from the start.

In Level III training, Soldiers incorporate boxing and strikes with the legs, he said.

BODY FIRST  
1 x 1"  
Black Only  
1x1bodyfirst02/20am

PRAIRIE HAWK CYCLE &  
LEATHER,  
1 x 1.5"  
Black Only  
1X1.5 Prairie Hawk Mtr TF

MILITARY OUTLET  
3 x 3"  
Black Only  
3X3MILOUTLETTF03/04AM

JOHNSON FURNITURE  
3 x 12"  
Other Color  
RED3x12johnson03/13-0091am





# Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, March 18, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

## Community news briefly

### Leader training being offered

A Family Readiness Group leader basic training class is scheduled for March 19 at the Soldier and Family Support Center on post. For more information, call 239-9455.

### Riley's to host Mom's Day deal

Riley's Conference Center will host a Mother's Day Lunch from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. May 8.

The menu will include roast pork tenderloin, seasoned fried chicken, whipped mashed potatoes with gravy, seasoned carrots, hot cherry cobbler, house salad, hot rolls and tea, coffee and water.

The price for adults 12 and older is \$13.95 per person. Children 4 to 12 eat for \$10.50. Reservations are recommended.

For more information or to make a reservation, call Riley's Conference Center at (785) 784-1000.

### Applications available

Combined Federal Campaign scholarship applications are available online at [www.riley.army.mil](http://www.riley.army.mil).

Click on the Current News link and scroll down to Briefs. Click on CFC Scholarship Application and follow the directions to fill out the application.

Copies of the application also are available from guidance counselors at local high schools, the Soldier and Family Support Center, Fort Riley Thrift Shop and the Education Center.

Applications must be submitted by April 15. Scholarships will be awarded in May and will be for the fall semester of 2005.

Applicants must be a family member graduating high school or currently enrolled as a college or vocational school student (must have a high school diploma or GED certificate) or the spouse of any active duty member assigned to Ft Riley, retired military member or deceased military member of the greater Fort Riley community.

For more information, call Shawni Sticca, scholarship committee chairperson at 784-3191.

### Association seeks walkers

The American Heart Association is seeking teams of walkers to participate in the American Heart Walk at 2:30 p.m. May 1 at South Park in Junction City.

Funds raised from the American Heart Walk go directly to support lifesaving research, professional education and community programs that help people survive America's No. 1 and No. 3 killers, heart disease and stroke.

Participants cannot solicit funds on post without permission to do so.

For more information about the walk or about forming teams, call (800) 590-5613, extension 4086, or 210-7506.

### Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

## Event honors women's contribution

By Mike Heronemus  
Editor

A key female commander at Fort Riley will speak during the luncheon honoring Women's History Month at 11:45 a.m. March 23 at Riley's Convention Center.

Col. Marilyn Brooks, commander of Irwin Army Community Hospital and the U.S. Army Med-

ical Department Activity at Fort Riley, will be the guest speaker and will address the theme of this month's observance, "Women Change America."

The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute picked that theme to emphasize all the ways women contribute to the nation and to society in general besides being mothers and homemakers, said Master Sgt. Larry D.

Caldwell, senior equal opportunity adviser for 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley.

The Fort Riley observance will recognize several military and civilian women on post who are serving in key positions, Caldwell said.

This year's observance will include a program presented by the Morris Hill Gospel Service Praise Dancers, said Sgt. 1st Class

Nicole L. Powell, division equal opportunity adviser.

The group will perform a dance interpretation of a gospel song entitled "Still I Rise," said Daphne Maxwell, an employee in the Staff Judge Advocate's Office and music minister for the Morris Hill Gospel Service. "Their dance will interpret the words of the song," she said, "instead of just dancing to the beat of the song."

The song fits into the theme of the history month, she said, because it speaks of women achieving. Carla Nwoga directs the dance group.

Caldwell said he expects about 250 people to attend the observance. "We usually have that many attend," he said.

Those attending may partake of a buffet meal that will be served after the program.

## Runway walk

### BOSS, KSU fashion show struts designers' looks

By Austin Meek  
Staff writer



The scene inside Riley's Conference Center looked like something straight from the pages of 'Vogue' magazine. With techno music pulsing in the background, aspiring models hit the runway at a fashion show sponsored by Fort Riley's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program.

The March 12 event was a joint effort between BOSS and Kansas State University students. BOSS president Dwayne Allen said the show was a good way to bring students and Soldiers together.

"We wanted to reach out to K-State," Allen said. "The Soldiers and the students got a chance to mix and mingle."

Anthony Heiman, a senior in apparel design at K-State, helped Allen plan the show. Heiman said the show gave K-State's aspiring designers and models a chance to showcase their talents.

"It was exciting," he said. "It gave the designers a chance to display some of their work."

Nicole Boles, Erica Martin and Liza Dunn were the K-State design students who displayed original fashions at the show.

Dunn said it was a thrill to have her designs modeled on the runway. "I've never done anything like this before. It was a new experience, but a good experience."

In addition to the original designs, the models paraded fashions from several retailers.

"We were able to get a lot of the retailers from the Manhattan Town Center Mall to participate," Allen said. The fashions were

**Sophia Siv models an outfit indicative of modern styles created by students at Kansas State University and available in retail stores in the region.**

Post/Meek



**Suzanne Schreiber, a Kansas State University student, strikes a pose as she turns on the runway at Riley's Conference Center during the fashion show sponsored by Fort Riley's Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and KSU design students.**

Post/Meek

modeled by a group of 21 Soldiers, civilians and students. BOSS held auditions to select the models.

"Anybody could come out and audition," Allen said. "No qualifications were needed. The main thing we were looking for was good stage presence."

After the show, the models had the opportunity to meet with Mark Jones, chief executive officer of I & I Agency, a modeling agency in Kansas City, Mo. Jones spoke about the modeling industry and invited the models to participate in open call at his agency.

Allen said having the talent scout in attendance was a nice surprise for the models.

"We have some good looking models and we wanted to help them out as much as we could," Allen said. "We didn't want them to find out about the talent scout ahead of time because we didn't want them to get nervous."

Suzanne Schreiber, a K-State student

See Show, Page 10

## College invites pupils to visit

By Laura Modlin  
Kansas State University

MANHATTAN – Kansas State University invites all high school students and their families to share in a day full of fun activities and fun for everyone.

K-State's All-University Open House will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 9 on the Manhattan and Salina campuses.

The theme for this year's open house is "Welcome to Fabulous Open House, K-State."

Visitors can explore K-State's "jackpot" of more than 200 academic programs and nearly 400 student organizations and get questions answered by representatives from admissions, housing and dining, financial aid and other student services who will be on hand.

Open house is a fun opportunity to enjoy the sights and sounds of K-State. Events for the day include live entertainment by local bands and singers, tours of campus, exhibits, hands-on activities, a variety of food, a K-State-style "Fear Factor" and more, including a chance to find out about "purple pride" from K-State student athletes, cheerleaders and the team mascot, Willie the Wildcat.

Open house also is a convenient way to find out what each K-State college has to offer, including:

- The College of Architecture, Planning and Design, where fifth-year students recently completed a design-build project, transforming the east-wing basement of Seaton Hall into studio classrooms.

- The College of Veterinary Medicine, K-State's "animal planet," where visitors can walk through a giant beating heart.

- The College of Engineering offers student-built "battlebots," solar cars and baja and formula-1 racing cars.

No registration is required. Parking is free and a shuttle service will be available. More information is available at [consider.k-state.edu/openhouse](http://consider.k-state.edu/openhouse).

## Friends, families remember Soldiers fondly

By Mike Heronemus  
Editor

Fellow Soldiers, friends and family filled Morris Hill Chapel March 10 to remember fondly and reverently two Soldiers of "Hamilton's Own," the 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery.

Pvt. Osman Muhammad Abdu-rahman and Pvt. Maurice Chevalier Smith died as a result of a traffic accident in Junction City about 5 a.m. March 6.

The Soldiers' battalion commander, Lt. Col. Richard M. Cabrey, acknowledged that a sad

occasion had called all those in attendance together that Thursday afternoon.

It also was a time, he said, that those who knew these Soldiers could learn from their lives.

"We can learn the importance of responsibility to family, friends, the unit and to self," he said. "They took that responsibility."

Capt. Sean C. Heidegerken, a fire support officer in the battalion, remembered "A-B," as Abdu-rahman was commonly called to be a man who drew people to himself and who made friends easily.

"He spent two-thirds of his short military career forward (first in Korean and then with the battery in Iraq)," Heidegerken said, emphasizing that not many Soldiers could claim that kind of service.

Spe. Barron S. Clark met "A-B" in Iraq and said he quickly learned his new comrade was a friend who would always listen and try to help out. "But he never was afraid to tell you when you were wrong," Clark recalled.

Capt. William L. Christopher, Service Battery commander, said it was no secret Smith had gotten himself into some trouble before

Christopher assumed command of the battery.

"I asked him what he wanted to do, and he said he wanted to stay in the Army but he couldn't do that without my help," Christopher recalled. "Sometimes a person just needs someone to trust him."

The trust Christopher and others in the battery held for Smith was not misplaced, the commander said. "He was working hard to be a better Soldier, and he was succeeding. He knew himself, and he was seeking self-improvement."

"Some people change on

instinct," said Smith's friend Spe. Derrick Brooks. "Smitty" changed on instinct and on purpose.

"Smitty" was the kind of friend that "if I had a problem, then he had a problem," Brooks said. "He was one of the smartest guys I hung with," he went on, and urged his family to be comforted in his death.

"Don't ever not worry about it," Brooks said, repeating one of the remarks he claimed always brought a smile to his friend's face.

"He's in a better place where there's no pain," he said.





*Post/Baker*  
Kelsey Shook, a fourth-grader at Fort Riley Elementary School, reads to fourth-grader Kali Jo Erickson (left) and first-grader Alicia Hughart during pajama day.

## Students read for Seuss

*By Jay Baker*

### Public affairs intern

Fort Riley Elementary School's celebration of Dr. Seuss's 100th birthday the first week of March sent a message of "Pick up a book and read with a child" to students, faculty, staff and parents alike.

The school celebrated the child author's birthday with a weeklong reading program. Special readers and parents were invited to come to the school and read popular Dr.

Seuss works and other books. The program ended March 4 with a spirit day that put children in the hallways, reading while dressed in pajamas.

"I like Dr. Seuss books and reading out loud with my group is better than just reading in class," said Kelsey Shook, a fourth-grader at the school.

Initially created as a one-day event to celebrate reading on Dr. Seuss' birthday, March 2, the event has grown into a nationwide initiative that promotes reading every day.

# Agency rep scouts show for talent

*By Austin Meek*

*Staff writer*

When Mark Jones watched the models strut down the runway at Riley's Conference Center March 12, he knew exactly what he was looking for — potential.

"I'm looking for potential," he said matter-of-factly.

As chief executive officer of the I & I Agency in Kansas City, Mo., Jones' job is to find, develop and market talent. For Jones, it all starts with potential — those intrinsic qualities that a model must have to succeed in the industry.

"There are two things that are really critical to being successful in the modeling business," he said. "No. 1 is having a look. It's more than just facial features. It's having that energy, that sparkle in the eyes.

"The second thing is all about the drive, the passion. If you want to do this business, you don't ever give up, absolutely never."

Jones does not mince words when it comes to the harsh realities of the modeling industry. He makes it clear that very few people have what it takes to succeed.

"There are so many height requirements, size requirements. Your nose, your forehead, your hairline — there are so many things. It's just ridiculous," Jones said.



*Post/Meek*

Mark Jones, a talent scout for I & I Agency in Kansas City, Mo., makes notes a model taking part in the fashion show at Riley's Conference Center March 12.

Because the industry is so elite, runway modeling represents a very small part of I & I's business. Lance Thompson, staffing promotions director at I & I, said the agency represents a large number of actors and actresses.

"Anybody can do acting," Thompson said. "You don't have to have a look. You don't have to worry about a freckle on your nose."

Lindsey Shaw, a 15-year-old actress from Lincoln, Neb., got her start with I & I Agency. Shaw

is starring in "Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide," a TV series on Nickelodeon.

"They interviewed (Shaw) in the Kansas City Star and she actually mentioned the I & I Agency," Jones said. "We made an impact on her, and I love making an impact."

Derek Ray is another actor whose career has been affected by I & I. Ray played the part of Randy on the TV series "Boston Public." He currently works in Los Angeles.

Jones remembers being skeptical about Ray at first.

"I was looking at this shy kid who didn't hardly know how to act," Jones said. "I wasn't sure he had what it took." However, after going through I & I's training program, Ray went on to become a successful actor.

Jones said working with an acting coach is one of the first steps in the program. "If you've had acting classes, that's great," Jones said. "But you've got to have an acting coach. Halle Berry has won an Oscar, and she still has an acting coach."

After the training is complete, I & I begins the marketing process. Thompson said every model is marketed differently based on his or her unique strengths. Many are marketed to local advertisers for commercials or print ads. Others are marketed to larger modeling agencies, like the Ford Agency in New York.

Jones knows there is a lot of risk involved with trying to succeed as a model. However, he says that if a person is passionate about the industry, it's a risk worth taking.

"You have to do whatever you're passionate about," Jones said. "If you don't do what you're passionate about, you end up working a 40-hour week doing something you don't care about."

## Community news briefly

### Morris Hill Mass changes hours

Catholic Mass at Morris Hill Chapel will be at 9:30 a.m. on Palm Sunday, March 20, instead of 9 a.m., as usual.

### Partners plan annual meeting

Partners of the First Territorial Capitol will meet in annual session at the capitol on Fort Riley at 5 p.m. March 31. This volunteer organization works to keep the doors to the 150-year-old capitol open for visitors interested in the history of

Kansas and Fort Riley. Guests are invited to join the partners for the meeting and barbecue supper being provided.

### Club schedules dance lessons

The Buckles & Bows Square Dance Club will be offering dance lessons with caller Kevin Oneslanger from Lawrence from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on four consecutive Saturdays, April 2, 9, 16 and 23. The cost will be \$30 for singles and \$60 for couples, and a potluck lunch will be provided each Saturday. For more information, call 238-5492.

## KSU invites sophomores to special program

### Kansas State University

MANHATTAN — High school sophomores who want to get an early start on their college search can get some help through a special Kansas State University program.

"For Sophomores Only," sponsored by the K-State Alumni Association, will be April 8 and 9, and is part of K-State's All-University Open House.

The event starts the evening of April 8 and includes small group activities and discussions, a scavenger hunt, a skit

by Student Alumni Board members and a dance social.

Activities include a "Virtual College" experience for students, a one-hour simulation of a year as a college student.

Afterward, students and families can enjoy K-State's annual All-University Open House, which runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 9.

Advanced registration by March 25 is required. The cost is \$18 for both days or \$15 for the Saturday program.

For more information, call (800) 600-2586 or 532-6260.

## Show continued from page 9

who modeled in the show, said meeting Jones encouraged her to consider a modeling career.

"I may (pursue modeling)," Schreiber said. "I'm an architectural engineering major, so it's definitely very different. But modeling is something I've been interested in for a long time."

Schreiber credited Allen and Heiman for putting together a good show even though many of

the models were inexperienced.

"I think it went really well," Schreiber said. "This is the first runway I've ever done. We worked with great people. Spec. Allen and Tony (Heiman) were amazing."

Heiman and Allen agreed that the show was a success.

"It went awesome," Heiman said. "It was exactly how I pictured it."

KANSAS STATE BANK  
2 x 4"  
Black Only  
2x04estacabank03/07am

SETH CHILD CINEMAS  
2 x 5.5"  
Black Only  
2X5.5SETHTF03/04AM

THE MARTIN AGENCY  
4 x 10"  
Black Only  
Alltel/#502170056/Post: March05



# Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, March 18, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

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## Sports news in brief

### Golf course hosts clinic

Custer Hill Golf Course at Fort Riley will host a golf clinic for women beginning at 3 p.m. March 25. For more information, call the golf course at 784-6000.

### Scavenger hunt open to families

Families can exercise, have fun, search for clues and maybe win prizes by participating in the Fort Riley Scavenger Challenge 2005 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. April 23. Families will be allowed walk, bike or rollerblading around Main Post, visiting historic points of interest in search of clues.

Prizes and games are planned along the route. Light snacks also will be provided.

The hunt begins and ends at King Field House. Families can register between 9 and 10:30 a.m. the day of the hunt and door prizes will be drawn at 11:40 a.m.

For more information, call 239-2813.

### Parks group seeks teams

The Manhattan Parks and Recreation Department is accepting team registrations for Wildcat League Softball. Leagues are available for children 10 years old and younger and 16 years old and younger.

To register, stop by the Parks and Recreation Office at 1101 Fremont St. or call (785) 587-2757, before 5 p.m. March 25 or before the leagues are full.

The teams will play May 2 through July 15 at either Griffith Park or City Park in Manhattan.

The team fee is \$525 and includes 10 doubleheaders, staff, game balls and USSSA sanction fee. Teams must provide their own equipment and uniforms.

### Center offers free bowling

Bowlers get a chance to win a free night of bowling every Tuesday from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Anyone who signs up to bowl at that time receives a ticket for a chance to win. Tickets will be drawn at 7, 7:30, 8 and 8:30 p.m.

Whoever has their ticket drawn bowls free for that evening.

For more information, call Custer Hill Lanes at 239-4366.

### Firearms range open for use

Fort Riley's Range 9 for privately owned firearms is open for use on weekdays by authorized patrons. Confirmed open dates are March 26 and 27, and April 2, 3, 9, 10 and 23, weather permitting. The range may be open other days or those confirmed dates may change. Anyone wanting to use the range should first check with Outdoor Rec at 239-2249 to confirm the range is open.

If the range is to be closed because of severe weather or extreme cold or heat, the range officer scheduled for duty will notify Range Control and Outdoor Recreation.

All shooters must bring their own hearing protection. No water is available at Range 9. Target stands and targets are available at no charge at Range 9.

## Spring sports need more teams

By April Blackmon  
Staff writer

Post soccer and volleyball seasons need teams.

As of March 11, only three soccer teams - 924th Military Police Battalion, 10th Air Support Oper-

ations Squadron and Medical Department Activity - have signed up. MEDDAC is the only team signed up for volleyball.

While there are only three soccer teams, there will be a season, said Barry Sunstrom, Fort Riley intramural coordinator.

"We'll play some soccer," he

said. "But we'd like to get a couple more teams. It's not as much fun or challenging with three as opposed to 12 teams, but we'll do something with them."

Volleyball season, however, is in danger of being cancelled.

Both seasons begin around the end of March and will be com-

plete by early May. Because the two sports overlap, Sunstrom said he would make sure the schedules don't conflict. That will allow Soldiers to participate on both the soccer and volleyball teams, if they want to.

"The games won't overlap. We won't make teams compete with

each other for players," he said. "We want to do everything we can for those who want to play."

The sports office is allowing teams to sign up until the close of business March 22.

For more information or to register a team, call Sunstrom at 239-3945.

## Undefeated

### Post tourney battle starts with jerseys

By Austin Meek  
Staff writer

The battle between the contenders for the post company level basketball crown began 10 minutes before the teams tipped off.

Both teams - Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry - wanted to wear black jerseys.

Neither side would back down, so a coin toss settled the matter peacefully. The Artillery won the coin toss, but the stage was set for a hard-fought title game.

The game, played March 9 at King Field House, pitted an undefeated Infantry team against the Artillery's sharpshooters. The Artillery gave the Infantry players all they could handle for the first 20 minutes, but the Infantry's Michael Williamson blasted through the Artillery defense in the second half, scoring 15 of his 21 game points and leading his team to a 56-38 victory.

The Infantry tried to pound the ball inside early with limited success. Big man Stephen McGraw got a lot of touches in the opening minutes but finished the first half with just two points.

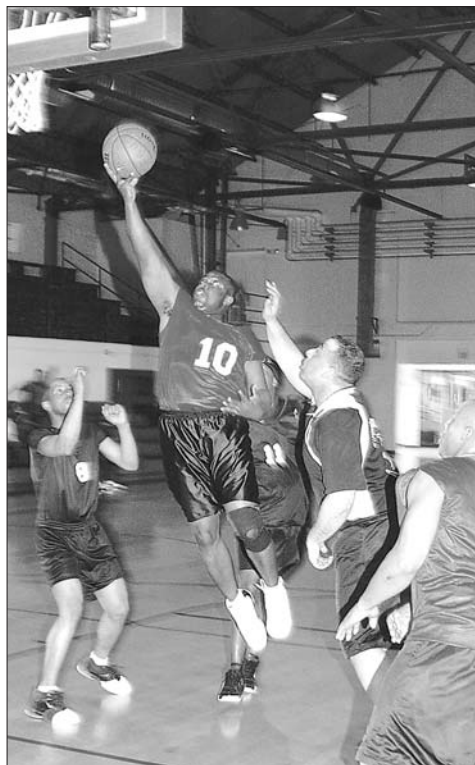
The Artillery led 21-17 at halftime with the help of eight points from Andrew Smith.

Fueled by Williamson's hot shooting, the Infantry opened the second half with a 13-2 run. They outscored the usually hot-handed Artillery team 39-17 in the second period to claim the 18-point victory.

After the game, Smith was at a loss to describe what went wrong for the Artillery in the second half.

"I don't know," he said. "We just fell apart. We weren't playing team ball."

The Artillery Soldiers, who relied heavily on the 3-point shot throughout the season, hit just three of 14 treys in the game. Syndicate Walker, who had been averaging



Post/Blackmon  
Stephen McGraw (4) looks on while teammate Cedric Davis (10) of HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., drives between Kevin Curry (8) and Derek Brooks (00) of HHC, 1st Bn., 5th FA, for a shot in the post championship game March 9.

See Champs, Page 13

### Tournament game results:

Game 1: Btry B, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated Co. B, 101st FS, 41-38  
Game 2: 172nd Chemical Co. defeated Co. C, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, 41-33  
Game 3: 331st Signal Co. defeated 15th Finance 49-36  
Game 4: HHC, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated MEDDAC 46-45  
Game 5: Touch of Grey defeated Btry. A, 1st Bn., 5th FA, 63-36  
Game 6: HHC, 24th Inf. Div., defeated

HHC, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, 36-33  
Game 7: Btry B, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated 10th ASOS 46-31  
Game 8: Co. A, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, defeated 523rd MPs 44-35  
Game 9: HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., defeated 15th PSB 53-34  
Game 10: 172nd Chemical Co. defeated 331st Signal Co. 38-37  
Game 11: HHC, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated Touch of Grey 54-44

Game 12: HHC, 24th Inf. Div., defeated Btry. B, 1st Bn., 5th FA, 46-28  
Game 13: HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., defeated Co. A, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, 50-35  
Game 14: HHC, 1st Bn., 5th FA, defeated 172nd Chemical Co. 55-42  
Game 15: HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., defeated HHC, 24th Inf. Div. 70-51  
Game 16: HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., defeated HHC, 1st Bn., 5th FA, 56-38

## State group honors director

### Westerhaus enshrined in hall of fame

By Jay Baker  
Public affairs intern

The Kansas Amateur Softball Association named one of its members - a Fort Riley civilian employee - to its hall of fame. Post Sports director Jim Westerhaus will receive his award at the association's awards banquet and conference March 19-20.

Westerhaus joined the Kansas ASA in 1990. His volunteer activities, such as umpiring games, presiding over the association's board and doing anything else that promotes amateur softball, laid the groundwork for receiving the honor.

"Everyone from the state commissioner on down is a devoted volunteer and has various full-time jobs. The commissioner is a farmer in western Kansas. People give their time for different reasons. For example, most people who volunteer had a good experience when they were young. Maybe they played or their parents played," Westerhaus said.

Westerhaus became associated with the organization after the Fort Riley Sports Department built the softball complex on post in the early 1990s. More than 16,000 games have been played at the complex, he said.

Westerhaus promotes amateur softball by organizing tournaments for players in the Adult Slow Pitch program in Kansas. Coordinating with various recreation centers and providing clinics for umpires are some of his responsibilities. In his work as the Kansas ASA president, he and the other board members interpret rules and establish codes for the game, he said.

"Being inducted into the hall of fame is a great honor and just being associated with the great softball players is quite a thrill," Westerhaus said.



Jim Westerhaus

## Dancing, 'booming' means it's mating season

### Post's male prairie chickens begin annual ritual to attract hens

By Alan Hynek  
Fish and Wildlife Administrator



Alan Hynek

Among the tall grass and burnt prairie, a remarkable ritual begins to take place, revealed only to a keen ear and watchful eye. It is the bustling view of courting prairie chickens, a delight to the conservationist and a

reminder that Fort Riley is a crown jewel for grassland birds.

Although the parlor has changed somewhat over the years, the calling, dancing and courting of these feathered prairie fowl have not.

The greater prairie chicken, Tym-

panuchus cupido, is a species of grouse that was once common throughout the Midwest. However, the conversion of fertile tallgrass prairie to plowed fields has led to their demise over much of their former range. The state of Kansas is one

of the last strongholds of the greater prairie chicken, but that too is starting to wane.

Kansas is the only state that has a huntable population of prairie chickens. Fort Riley has a population of about 500 birds. By comparison, the population in the entire state of Mis-

See Chickens, Page 13





# March madness

## Staying in focus crucial for players

By Katie Copeland  
Kansas State University

MANHATTAN — What's the difference between a basketball player who chokes up after missing the tie-breaking shot in the big game and one who regroups after his shot doesn't fall and is able to drop back on defense to keep his team in the competition?

A counselor at Kansas State University contends that in contests where all of the players are at the top of their games physically, the difference in performing in high-pressure situations — such as the NCAA basketball tournament — is all about the ability to manage stress, anxiety and arousal levels.

Fred Newton, director of University Counseling Services at K-State, said there are certain mental aspects of one's performance that can influence the ability to control anxiety levels.

"When you are a high-level performer, the anxiety can play a role in

mental aspects of a game may place one athlete above another's skill level.

"For athletes who have been recruited to a Division I school, we know their skill level is in the upper percentiles," Newton said. "The difference

various strategies to find a balance in their arousal levels.

By doing so, Newton said, players may work up to their optimal level of performance — or get "in the zone."

"I have worked with a basketball player who said he was always told to get up before a game. Then he would go to the game, and in the first five minutes the ball would fall off his hands," Newton said.

"He learned that before the game, rather than

program that monitors various stress levels. Athletes can learn self-regulation methods to control the mental aspects of their performance.

"In basketball, you want the players to be at the right level of arousal. If they are pretty highly aroused, it is useful for doing certain things like jumping, running fast, playing intense defense," Newton said.

"But when you step up to the foul line, you want to pull all of that down and get calm," he said.

Techniques such as deep breathing, repeating affirmations and visualization have all been used as self-management routines for athletes. These methods

help athletes to learn to control their bodies before they start to worry, which Newton said is counterproductive.

"The more you worry, the more likely something will go wrong," Newton said.

"Saying positive statements such as 'I'm prepared,' 'I'm strong,' 'I have control' helps to trigger the right response in the body rather than the 'uh oh' responses," he said.

Learning how to manage the stress and arousal levels applies to everyone, not just athletes.

Newton said some people naturally know how to balance their stress, while others need to learn systematically how to control it.

"If you know how to self-regulate, then you know which buttons to push and how to do it," Newton said.

that," said Newton, who is also a counseling and educational psychology professor.

"The initial role is that it gets you up and gets you ready, focused and excited. But if it's too high, too much anxiety can cause an arousal response measured by physiological change such as sweat, muscle tension, heart rate change and other behaviors," he said.

Knowing and controlling the

between one athlete in the 98 percentile and another in the 97 percentile is primarily mental," he said.

Although arousal — activation of the body and mind — is a natural response, athletes have found

getting excited, he needed to do things to settle himself down," Newton said.

Through a program called biofeedback, Newton said players can learn to manage their emotional ups and downs.

Biofeedback is a computerized

## All-American fun illegal, but ...

### Tourney pools may improve productivity

By Keener A. Tippin II  
Kansas State University

MANHATTAN — During March Madness, many people become caught up in the excitement of college basketball. Unfortunately for most businesses, a lot of the games take place during the workday.

As such, the annual hoops hysteria kicks off workplace betting, which some say saps worker productivity. Workers will spend hours filling out tournament brackets, monitoring scores on the Web and talking trash across cubicles.

Overall estimates vary, but studies speculate U.S. businesses will lose from \$400 million to \$1.5 billion in productivity diverted to gambling pools during the tournament.

Although these pools are technically illegal, try finding an office without one. In spite of the productivity that is lost, a Kansas State

University associate professor of management who has spearheaded a campaign to emphasize the importance of ethics in business education, sees nothing inherently wrong with participation in these pools by employees at work — if done in moderation.

Legal issues aside, Diane Swanson said participation in such office pools can in fact act as a counterweight to the cost and productivity issue, which some place at about \$101 million lost by businesses for every 10 minutes its employees spend obsessing about the tournament. These pools can instead increase employee morale and output.

"Such activities at work do create a bond among employees and increase their interest in being at work and foster a climate of solidarity," Swanson said.

"Instead of people sitting solemnly around and not connecting, these kinds of things can help to connect people and create bonds around a focal point of interest. This is desirable in a climate where employees by the thousands have lost jobs due to outsourcing and whopping misconduct at the top of organizations," she said.

If the office pools are done with the knowledge of the employer and are run with fairness and no corruption, Swanson said she doesn't see it as a problem.

## K-State professor studies fan identification with teams

By Amber Haag  
Kansas State University

MANHATTAN — Why does your brother dress up in North Carolina blue every time the Tar Heels take the floor? He didn't attend the University of North Carolina, so what is it about the team that interests him?

This phenomenon is at the root of a study by Kansas State University marketing professors Todd Donovan and Swinder Janda.

"There are people out there who feel like they belong to these col-

lege teams, but they never attended the school," Donovan said. "The question is, what is driving people to identify with one team over another?"

Donovan said identification is formed in our knowledge and emotional structures. Cognitive identification is the awareness of group membership and affective commitment occurs when a person forms an emotional attachment to the group.

Cognitive identification comes first — a fan takes psychological membership with the team. Only then can a fan grow emotionally

attached to the team, Donovan said.

"We are driven to attend games, purchase goods and pass along goods when our emotions are vested in a team," Donovan said.

So how can a team obtain a fan base with this level of identification, and why would they need to?

Donovan said four elements that consistently predict identification are mystique, significant others, proximity and prestige. While proximity and prestige only lead to cognitive identification, mystique and significant others lead to affective commitment. These two factors are the kind that sell sweat-

shirts, hats, cups and tickets.

Donovan said it's important for a team to keep its fan base emotionally attached, because it affects purchasing and ticket sales.

"Mystique is created by the entity's mystery, history and tradition," Donovan said.

"Teams can create a mystique by creating traditions. An example is K-State and the Wabash Cannonball at football games. This is a tradition that people remember and associate with the team."



Family and friends or significant others also affect a fan's identification with and emotional attachment to a team.

"If you grow up and your parents love Kansas State football, chances are you will also become emotionally vested in the team," Donovan said.



Kansas City Chiefs Photo

## Chiefs' cheerleaders to visit Soldiers, perform

The Kansas City Chiefs' Cheerleaders are coming to Fort Riley March 19. The cheerleaders will meet and greet soldiers and their families throughout the day and will perform their USO two-hour Broadway style show at Barlow Theater at 2 p.m. The Chiefs' Cheerleaders recently traveled throughout Italy and went to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, entertaining the troops. Free tickets for the performance are available at Information, Ticketing and Registration Office near the Post Exchange. Because of limited seating at Barlow Theater, tickets will be given on a first come, first served basis.

## Red Sox players visit war wounded

By Bernard S. Little  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The World Series heroes met their own heroes March 2 when the Boston Red Sox players visited recovering Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom servicemembers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Spec. Ramon Guitard, 21, who was injured by a roadside bomb in Iraq and has been at WRAMC for about five months, said he appreciated the visit by the World Series champs. He said he's also heard the players and coaches are just as inspired by the members of the armed forces as the troops are of the Sox, who earned their first Series victory in October after an 86-year drought filled with some close heartbreaking disappointments.

Boston ace Curt Schilling

and nearly 20 of his Red Sox teammates, including shaggy center fielder Johnny Damon, catcher Jason Varitek and powerful designated hitter David Ortiz, seemed moved by the visit to WRAMC as they shook hands and spoke with each of the recovering servicemembers in the WRAMC Physical Therapy Clinic.

Most of the servicemembers shared their stories about how they were injured fighting in the Global War on Terrorism and the Red Sox listened intently between signing autographs on caps, baseballs and T-shirts they brought to give to the patients.

Red Sox Manager Terry Francona said it was an honor to visit the troops at WRAMC because his coaches and players sincerely wanted to extend their warmest and deepest gratitude to the servicemembers injured and fighting in the Global War on Terrorism.





Post/Blackmon  
Michael Williamson (5) of HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., goes up for a shot while Derek Brooks follows.



Post/Blackmon  
HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., player Derick Walker (25) drives toward the goal while HHB, 1st Bn., 5th FA, player Kevin Curry (8) defends.



Post/Blackmon  
HHB, 1st Bn., 5th FA's, Syndicate Walker makes his way down the court while HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., players T.K. Doughty (1) and James Haywood (8) maneuver to defend.

## Champs continued from page 11

double figures for the Artillery, went scoreless.

"We played fantastic defense," said Infantry Coach James Lewis. "We just isolated their best 3-point shooter, which was Walker. We put our best defender on him and just shut him down."

James Haywood recorded a double-double for the Infantry, scoring 13 points and snagging 10 rebounds. McGraw and Cedric Davis added six points apiece for the Infantry. Smith scored 15 points for the Artillery before fouling out late in the game.

Jariad Droggins added eight, Jewel Brock made seven and Steven Jones scored six for the

Artillery. The championship capped a perfect season for the Infantry. Going undefeated said a lot about his team's character and work ethic, Lewis said.

"We were the only team in the league to go undefeated. It means we came out and played hard every single game," he said.

Williamson echoed those sentiments, saying that the championship was a perfect ending to the dream season.

"That's what we've been waiting for," Williamson said, pointing to the championship trophy. "Going undefeated makes it even better."

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## Chickens

continued from page 11

souri is only about 1,000 birds.

The habits of prairie chickens are what really set them apart, the most striking of which is their breeding ritual.

Beginning early in the spring, the male prairie chickens begin to visit "lek" sites in order to establish territories. That isn't peculiar in itself, except for the manner in which they do it. Just at daybreak, the males come together at established lek sites. They strut around, jump up in the air, stomp the ground and fight over the territory.

Then the real fun begins.

The males inflate orange air sacs known as tympani in their throats. They look something like oranges tucked beneath their chins. The sound they make is

similar to blowing across the top of an empty pop bottle — whurrrr, whoom-ah-oom, whoo-doo.

This drives the hens wild. Right on time, three females emerge from the tall grass and then the males get serious.

They jump straight into the air, bump breasts and fight in bursts of feathers. They fill the dawn with cackles and hoots.

Mating occurs at the pinnacle of this booming season. The hens lay 12 eggs on average, with an

incubation time of three weeks. The clutch will break up after eight to 12 weeks. Their diet consists of insects, forb seed and grain from crop fields.

Greater prairie chickens can be found in a variety of habitats. However, their reliance upon tall-grass prairie is paramount to their survival. It may also lead to their ultimate demise. An average size

flock requires about 160 acres of quality tallgrass prairie. Even then, there must be additional

flocks in the vicinity to keep reproduction genetically viable.

Prairie chickens have persisted in Kansas largely because of the unbroken Flint Hills, including Fort Riley. Unfortunately, they have declined even in this region because of changes in how native pastures are grazed and burned. While they appear safe for the time being on Fort Riley, the greater prairie chicken faces an uncertain future across the remainder of their original range.

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# Travel & Fun in Kansas

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America's Warfighting Center

Friday, January 7, 2005

## Leisuretime ideas

### At the movies:

The Barlow Theater doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under age 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

**March 18** – Are We There Yet? (PG)

**March 19** – Boogeyman (PG-13)

**March 20** – 2 p.m., Pooh's Heffalump Movie (G)

**March 20** – Are We There Yet? (PG)

**March 24** – Boogeyman (PG-13)

For more information, call (785)784-2226 or 784-2640.

### Lawrence:

**What:** The young musicians of Drum Drum, one of the most innovative contemporary groups from Australia and the South Pacific, draw upon their diverse cultures and ancestry to create a style of music never heard before.

**When:** 7:30 p.m. April 1

**Where:** 1600 Stewart Drive, Lied Center of Kansas

**Phone:** (785) 864-2787

**Admission:** Varies

**What:** "Miss Saigon." Set in the final days leading up to the American evacuation of Saigon in 1975, a gripping story of two young lovers torn apart by the fortunes of destiny and held together by a burning passion and the fate of a small child.

**When:** 7:30 p.m. April 5 and 6

**Where:** 1600 Stewart Drive, Lied Center of Kansas

**Phone:** (785) 864-2787

**Admission:** Varies

### Leavenworth:

**What:** 6th annual antique show.

**When:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 2 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 3

**Where:** 123 S. Esplanade, Riverfront Community Center

**Phone:** (913) 758-0193 or (800) 844-4114

**Admission:** Varies

### Holton:

**What:** 8th annual American Indian Artifacts Show.

**When:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 8

**Where:** 4-H fair building

**Phone:** (785) 364-3238

**Admission:** \$2

### Abilene:

**What:** Antique Telephone Collectors Spring Show. Telephone collectors from across the US meet to buy, sell, trade, and exhibit telephones and related artifacts.

**When:** 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 1

**Where:** 619 N Rogers

Avenue, Sterl Hall  
**Phone:** (620) 245-9555  
**Admission:** \$5 adult, \$3 child

### Fort Scott:

**What:** Civil War Encampment. Civil War history as the Union army re-occupies Fort Scott. Living history camp, demonstrations, and Saturday evening programs.

**When:** 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 9 and 10

**Where:** Old Fort Boulevard, Fort Scott National Historic Site

**Phone:** (620) 223-0310

**Admission:** \$3 for 17 and older, under 16 free

### Baxter Springs:

**What:** Living History Week. Re-enactors present seven live stations concerning events in Baxter Springs in the 1880s.

**When:** 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 12-14

**Where:** 740 East Avenue, Baxter Springs Heritage Center and Museum

**Phone:** (620) 856-2385

**Admission:** Free

### Wichita:

**What:** Puccini's "La Boheme." Paris, the city of love, sets the stage for the season finale tale of timeless love in this most beloved opera.

**When:** 8 p.m. April 2 and 3 p.m. April 3

**Where:** 225 W. Douglas, Century II Concert Hall, Wichita Grand Opera

**Phone:** (316) 683-3444

**Web site:** www.wichita-grandopera.org

**Admission:** \$30-\$90

### Hutchinson:

**What:** 37th annual Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. Festival and benefit auction with ethnic food, quilt auction, crafts, music, and run for relief.

**When:** 5 to 9 p.m. April 8 and 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 9

**Where:** 2000 N. Poplar, Kansas State Fairgrounds

**Phone:** (620) 665-7406

**Admission:** Free

### Manhattan:

**What:** Freaky Fables from the Foothills: Prints by Tom Huck. St. Louis based artist Tom Huck is one of the foremost printmakers working in woodcut. Huck creates extraordinary images packed with narrative and visual incident.

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday through April 17

**Where:** 701 Beach Lane, Beach Museum of Art

**Phone:** (785) 532-7718

**Admission:** Free

## 'Hills' Homage



These three panels of fiber art comprise a work by Marilyn Grisham titled Summer Dressed Prairie. It is one of several works of art done in a variety of mediums, including oils and watercolors, on exhibit at the Junction City Arts Council gallery until April 9.

## Artists interpret Flint Hills, prairie

By Lauren Karp  
Special to the Post

The "Homage to the Flint Hills" exhibit will be at the Junction City Arts Council Gallery, 107 W. Seventh St., through April 9.

This will be the fifth stop on the 12-stop tour. The tour began in June in Topeka and will end in May 2006 in North Newton.

"The exhibit includes all mediums: water color, oil and pastels, ceramic and fiber," said Gail Parsons, director of the Junction City Arts Council. "This is one of the biggest exhibits we've had in a long time. This is a big deal for us."

Freelance writer Don Lambert's wheels started turning in 1984. He was in charge of an art exhibit, "Kansas Landscape," that toured the state for two years. He realized a lot of the landscape paintings depicted the Flint Hills and that artists were traveling across the United States to capture the Flint Hills' magnificence.

"I started this project last year once everything seemed to gel. It had been on the back burner until then," Lambert said. A lot of organizing and 37 artists later, Lambert's project was nearly ready.

In March, Lambert held a one-day exhibit in the state capitol to test the exhibit on a live audience. After the exhibit, Gov. Kathleen Sebelius recognized the arts and offered to keep the exhibit until the tour began. The art pieces occupied her office walls until the first exhibit opened last summer.

With the exhibit, which will be open at the Junction City gallery from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays through April 9 and periodically through the week by appointment, visitors will also have the opportunity to tour the Flint Hills.

The McDowell Creek Association will host a tour of the Flint Hills on March 19. The Flint Hills bus will leave from the Arts Council about 10 a.m. and will return about 1:30 p.m.

The tour will travel from Clarks Creek to McDowell Creek and will examine geology of the Flint Hills, its Native American heritage, ranching heritage, stone masonry, the architecture of the Flint Hills, what ranchers do this time of the year and how ranching preserves the Flint Hills.

Tour participants will see a historic barn, a Montgomery Ward house, an old settlers' cemetery and the bird runner wildlife refuge. Participants also will get to

### Flint Hills tour

**When:** 10 a.m. March 19  
**Where:** McDowell Creek Community Center, 320 McDowell Boulevard N.

**Cost:** Free with a suggested donation of \$6 for lunch  
**Call:** (785) 776-8852

walk in the tallgrass prairie during the tour.

"There will be time for visitors to explore the prairie on their own," said Margy Stewart, secretary of the McDowell Creek Community Association.

After the tour, participants can visit a country arts and crafts bazaar at the community center. Displays will include wrought iron art, pottery, frozen bison meat for sale, a study of the heritage of African-Americans in the northern Flint Hills and books written about McDowell Creek.

*Editor's note: This story originally appeared in the Feb. 27 issue of The Daily Union, Junction City, Kan.*

## Travel manager suggests leisuretime options

### Staff report

Information, Ticketing and Registration office at Fort Riley offers a wide variety of options for leisuretime activities. Manager Teresa Mayes suggests the following:

• A Colorado Ski package for spring break. Military discounts

are available for lift tickets at Winter Park, Copper Mountain, Breckenridge, Keystone or Vail.

• Authorized patrons can start taking advantage of special military discounts and bargain cruises.

• Discount movie tickets for Seth Childs Cinema in Manhattan

are available through ITR. Tickets are not movie specific and have

an expiration date of December 2005.

• Country Stampede is a week-end of country music and camping June 23-26 at Tuttle Creek State Park in Manhattan.

The weekend is fun-filled and action packed with great performers,

fantastic food, colorful crafts and other activities. Top performers

will include Big & Rich, Keith Urban, ZZ Top and Montgomery Gentry. Early bird discounted tickets are available through ITR.

ITR is located at Building 6918 on Trooper Drive, across from the Post Exchange. Hours are 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 239-5614 or 239-4415.

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